



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Substitute Bill No. 5016

* _____ HB05016GAE__040406_____ *

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CONNECTICUT STATE PARK
FOUNDATION.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) (a) There is established a
2 Connecticut State Park Foundation, the resources of which shall be
3 used by the Connecticut State Park Foundation Council established
4 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section to fund programs and
5 projects that support the infrastructure and operations of Connecticut's
6 state parks and forest recreation areas. The resources of the foundation
7 shall be in addition to resources otherwise appropriated by the state
8 for such programs and projects. The foundation shall be organized and
9 comply with the provisions of sections 4-37e to 4-37k, inclusive, of the
10 general statutes. The foundation shall be subject to the provisions of
11 chapter 14 of the general statutes and subject to the same conditions
12 and exceptions of said chapter 14 as a state agency. The foundation
13 may apply for and accept any state, federal or private funds and shall
14 administer such funds in the manner required by applicable law. The
15 foundation may receive money or grants and goods, services and gifts
16 and may operate in cooperation with and contract for services with
17 other foundations. The books and records of the foundation shall be
18 subject to audit by the Auditors of Public Accounts.

19 (b) There shall be established a Connecticut State Park Foundation

20 Council composed of eleven members as follows: (1) The
21 Commissioners of Environmental Protection and Public Works and the
22 executive director of the Connecticut Commission on Culture and
23 Tourism, or their designees; and (2) the following eight public
24 members, whose terms shall be coterminus with the term of office of
25 the respective appointing authority for such member: (A) A
26 representative of a state-wide association dedicated to the promotion
27 of parks, forests and hiking trails, appointed by the Governor; (B) a
28 representative of the state-wide organization Friends of Connecticut
29 State Parks, Inc., appointed by the Governor; (C) a representative of a
30 Friends of Connecticut State Parks, Inc. organization from a shoreline
31 state park, appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate; (D) a
32 representative of a Friends of Connecticut State Parks, Inc.
33 organization from an inland state park, appointed by the speaker of
34 the House of Representatives; (E) two representatives of the business
35 community with experience in fund-raising, one appointed by the
36 minority leader of the House of Representatives and one by the
37 minority leader of the Senate; and (F) two other individuals with
38 experience in fund-raising, one to be appointed by the majority leader
39 of the House of Representatives and one by the majority leader of the
40 Senate. Members shall serve until their successors are appointed.
41 Vacancies in memberships shall be filled by the respective appointing
42 authority for the balance of the term vacated. The council shall solicit
43 and accept funds on behalf of the Connecticut State Park Foundation
44 established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, to be used for
45 programs and projects that support the infrastructure and operations
46 of Connecticut's state parks and forest recreation areas. The council
47 shall adopt policies and procedures for the acceptance and expenditure
48 of such funds.

49 (c) The council shall seek to develop public and private partnerships
50 with organizations, institutions, corporations and individuals who
51 share an interest in stewardship of state park and forest recreation
52 areas. The goal of such partnerships shall be to provide a public benefit
53 consistent with the mission of the state in managing its assets. Such

54 partnerships shall be designed to increase the ability of the
 55 Department of Environmental Protection to be a stronger steward of
 56 state park and forest assets. The Commissioner of Environmental
 57 Protection may place reasonable conditions on any donation to ensure
 58 that the general statutes, regulations of Connecticut state agencies and
 59 policies of the department are complied with. No improvements to
 60 state property pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be made
 61 without the written approval of the Commissioners of Environmental
 62 Protection and Public Works.

63 (d) On or before July 1, 2007, and annually thereafter, the
 64 Connecticut State Park Foundation Council shall report, in writing, to
 65 the Governor and the joint standing committees of the General
 66 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment
 67 and government administration concerning the source and amount of
 68 funds received by said council and by the Connecticut State Park
 69 Foundation and the manner in which such funds were administered
 70 and disbursed. The initial report shall include information on the
 71 policies and procedures developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this
 72 section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2006	New section

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*